IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

ERMAR, JOHN

Examiner: LANDRUM

Serial No. 10/764,350

Art Unit: 3724

Filing Date: JANUARY 23, 2004)

Attorney Docket No.

103.2160

For: LOCKING FOLDING KNIFE

AND ASSOCIATED METHODS

DECLARATION OF INVENTOR IN RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.132

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The inventor of the above-referenced application, John PerMar, hereby declares the following:

- 1. I am over the age of 18.
- 2. I am the sole inventor of the above-referenced invention.
- 3. The invention is directed to a folding knife having a blade rotatably connected to a handle, a lock bar pivotally connected to the handle, and a lock pin connected to the handle.
- 4. The lock bar includes a first lock member and a second lock member adjacent the first lock member, and is moveable between an engaged position and a disengaged position.
- 5. When the lock bar is in the engaged position, a portion of a first sidewall of the first lock member contacts a portion of a first sidewall of a first lock member recess formed in the blade to

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define a contact point between the lock bar and the blade when the blade is in the open position.

- As illustrated in FIGS. 1 and 2 of the present application, the lock bar 30 is a one piece lock bar that is pivotally connected to the handle so that engagement of the proximal end portion 32 thereof allows for movement of the lock bar between engaged and disengaged positions.
- The one piece construction of the lock bar allows for ready engagement between the first lock member and the first lock member recess, and the second lock member and the second lock member recess.
- 8. The one piece construction of the lock bar is necessary for manufacturing purposes, and is great/1y ad/antageous for ease of use of the folding knife of the present invention.

STATE OF FLORIDA COUNTY OF VOIUSIO

The forgoing instrument was acknowledged before me this 2th day of march, 2006 by John PERMAR, who is personally known to me or who has produced identification.

TONI STRANGE MY COMMISSION # DD 172923 EXPIRES: January 9, 2007 1-800-3-NOTARY FL Notary Service & Bonding, Inc.

Notary Public

Printed Name:

My commission expires: